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Harvest on Historic Fields.

Three years ago the battle's breath

Swept fiery hot across the plain;

And steadily the reaper Death,

With cruel carnage in his train,

Marched through the serried ranks that stood

Unwavering, and cut them down;

While field and farm, and hill and wood

Grew dark beneath the battle's frown

The cannon thundered in their wrath,

The musket rang with volleys there;

The loud shell cut its trackless path,

And burst with fury in the air;

And thickly by the trodden way,

In dyke and field, by level rows

Of trampled corn, Death's harvest lay—

Friend close by friend, and foe with foes.

To-day another harvest stands

Where once Death trod the bleeding plain,

Ripe for the reaper's ready hands

That bind in shades the golden grain.

Mar the sheltered farm house sleeps,

Emblazoned in shade; while o'er the

mount,

With plying growth the wild vine creeps,

Where rifles rang with deadly sound.

Up from her covert starts the quail,

As chancing on her hidden nest.

The farmer lad, with noisy hail

Spies quick as thought the speckled

breast.

And low and sweet the echoes call:

While from the blue sky overhead,

In mellow radiance flooding all,

The golden light of peace is shed.

—Harper's Weekly.

The National Crisis.

Unless we are greatly mistaken,

the country is about to be brought,

through the recklessness of Andrew Johnson,

and the malignity of his instigators, into a

situation of renewed trial, if not of per-

il. It is well to consider the prospect

calmly and soberly. We see the Presi-

dent, at a time when there appears to be

no special provocation, acting with more

biterness and also with more address

than at any previous time. He suspends

the Secretary of War and removes the

most active of the District Commanders,

and in each case endeavors to lull the

public indignation by the selection of

unobjectionable successors. He threatens

the two other District Commanders who

have shown themselves most efficient

in executing the reconstruction acts; he has

already condemned in advance the puni-

shed Commission of the Freedmen's

Bureau; his organ is setting a back fire

to drive Secretary Seward and others out

of the cabinet; while a sweeping re-

moval of Republican officers in the Treas-

ury and Post office service is predicted

by those who have had recent interviews

at the White House.

What is the meaning of all this? The

President, at the longest, has only about

a year and a half to stay in his office,

and the ordinary pressure for appoint-

ments must have been growing less and

less ever since he became President.

Personal vindictiveness—even that of

Andrew Johnson—is sufficient to account

for the wide extent of these changes. He

has an underlying, controlling motive,

and it can only be that which early

erupted in the shameful 22d of February

speech, in the ebullitions of the Western

press, and in the general course of the Ex-

ecutive since, and that is, hostility to

the reconstruction policy of the people

and of their representatives. The time

has come when a final effort to defeat

that policy must be attempted. If we

are to trust the forebodings of the Presi-

dent's intimates, the weapon he

holds in reserve, when suitable prepara-

tions shall have been made, is "universal

amnesty to the white rebels of the South,

that they may rush to the polls and by

strength, fraud or intimidation, over-

throw the Union men, and ultimately de-

termine their own terms of reconstruction.

Whether this can be legally done in the

estimation of others, may not be a ques-

tion that will trouble Andrew Johnson.

He has shown that he is capable of at-

tempting anything which more ingenious

men may suggest for carrying out his

and their unscrupulous ends.

Then it is considered that some such

scheme as this is all that is left to defeat

the steady progress of reconstruction,

and that nothing less important will ex-

plain the president's recent course and the

brazen confidence now being displayed

by many of the rebel leaders at the

South, pardoned by him, its probability

becomes more strong than all patriotic

men could desire. Mixed up with it,

probably, is the plan of stimulating the

energies of the democratic party, so as

to tell upon the fall elections, and thus

give the appearance of a popular reac-

tion in favor of the President, when he

shall renew the war upon Congress at

his next session. This is the prospect

before the President and the disloyal

elements of the whole country. The people

can contemplate it calmly, but they must

meet it vigorously. It is bound to fail,

like all those from the same source, that

have gone before it, and to recoil upon

its authors and annihilate their treason-

able cause—but this will only come through

the vigilance and untiring fidelity of the

people.—Boston Journal.

INADVERTENT BUT ATYPICAL.—The

Rev. Mr. Marsh, in his late Sunday

school report, recommended among other

excellent ideas, that the adults, present,

should do all in their power to increase

the infant class of his school through the

coming year! We hope so, too! In-

genious as it was, there was a practical

philosophy in it that must have struck

deeply into many of those devoted men

and women's hearts. In this great bat-

tle of life we're warring, there's nothing

like lots of infancy. The assurance is

open that the church will foster 'em if

the country can't. Let the call for sons-

in-law be made, who care for substitutes!

—Colorado Times.

MUSCULAR STRENGTH.—The most prodig-

ious power of muscle is exhibited by

the fish. The whale moves with a ve-

locity through a dense medium water,

that would carry him around the world

in less than a fortnight.

Prophetic Warning by Mr. Sumner.

From the Washington Chronicle, 17th.

The incidents of the past week, start-

ling as they are, we have every reason to

believe, are but the beginning of a series

of the most atrocious usurpations of

Executive power that can be conceived

in the interest of the President's re-

actionary policy. His desperation has

at last assumed an air of boldness, and

he must play his game out, win or lose.

The exigencies of the situation would

appal any man whose heart was not al-

ready corrupted by treason; but the

President has no longer any sensibility

upon the subject of patriotism, feeling

well assured that the farther he goes in

his recalcitrance the more he will commend

himself to the traitors whose friendship

he seeks. Events travel so rapidly that

we sometimes lose sight of the most im-

portant declarations and appreciative out-

pourings of our senator and representatives

in a few weeks. We regretted the an-

nounced purpose of Congress, at its late